



# The Carter Connection

May 21, 2009

## ***Carter seeks employment protection for Civil Air Patrol volunteers***



From left, Lt. Col. Carl Morrison, co-chair of the CAP California Wing's Legislative Committee, Assembly Member Carter and Col. Commander Kenneth W. Parris, Commander of California Wing, testify before the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee.

**A hiker is lost in the mountains.** A plane goes down and no one knows where it is. Medical supplies must be transported to an accident site.

In times of emergency or threat of disaster, the all-volunteer Civil Air Patrol comes to our rescue. Now Assemblymember Wilmer Amina Carter is helping them.

Her Civil Air Patrol Employment Protection Act - Assembly Bill 485 - assures the members in the state of California that their jobs would still be there after returning from an authorized emergency mission.

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### **AB 485 Civil Air Patrol Employment Protection Act**

**Author:** Assemblymember Wilmer Amina Carter

Establishes a right to employment leave for members of the California Wing of the Civil Air Patrol when performing authorized emergency operational missions.

**Status:** Passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 13 and now goes to the Assembly Floor for consideration.

*For information and to voice your support, call the Capitol Office of Assemblymember Carter (916) 319-2062.*

"The California Wing of the Civil Air Patrol very much appreciates . . . proposed legislation that will help us provide greater emergency response to the citizens of the State of California."

Kenneth W. Parris, Col.  
Commander  
California Wing  
Civil Air Patrol

**AB 485 establishes a right to employment leave** (up to 15 days a year) for 4,000 members of the California Wing of CAP, which is an official Civilian Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. The protection applies only when members are called up for an emergency by the U.S. Air Force, the California Emergency Management Agency or any subdivision of the state with the authority to declare an emergency.

Emergency operational missions are those that involve the saving or protection of life and property.

**"To perform search and rescue flights for several days** and find out you've lost your job is devastating to a volunteer whose main purpose is to save lives," Assemblymember Carter says.

"Right now CAP members only have the job protection rights their employers give them," she added. "Fortunately, employers are generally supportive of the Civil Air Patrol. But in this economy, employers may not be so accommodating."

"Typically, one member of the Civil Air Patrol would relieve another after a couple of days of looking for an aircraft that filed a flight plan but failed to arrive," said Lt. Col. Carl Morrison co-chair of the California Wing's Legislative Committee, which is the principal sponsor of the measure. Similar legislation has passed in nine states.

"There could be someone who was more qualified than others in a specific area," said Civil Air Patrol Lt. Col. Carl Morrison. "You wouldn't want that person not to go when they could possibly save a life. You want them to be able to go without the fear of losing their job."

**"Their payment is in the personal reward** of contributing countless hours of non-compensated time," Assemblymember Carter adds. "But the California Wing of the Civil Air Patrol can't be a consistent resource, unless they are fully supported for their patriotic service."

## Learn about 62nd District squadrons



Maj. Roy Knight (center) of San Bernardino Senior Squadron 5 plots satellite data at a Search and Rescue Management Course

### **San Bernardino Senior Squadron 5**

<http://sq5.cawg.cap.gov/>

email Capt. Joe Alverio  
Joe@alverio.com



From left, siblings Marcus Murray, Janette Murray and K.C. Murray of Rialto's Billie L. LeClair Cadet Squadron at an encampment in 2008.

The Civil Air Patrol cadet program is designed to provide youth ages 12-20 training in followership, leadership, aerospace education, communication, and emergency services. Cadets receive training in these areas at their weekly squadron meetings as well as participating in local and wing level activities that occur throughout the year.

### **Billie L. LeClair Cadet Squadron 31**

<http://sq31.cawg.cap.gov/sq31@tapoi.com>  
(909) 429-1389 (909) 355-0138



## Civil Air Patrol Facts

- Performs three congressionally-mandated missions: Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs and, what it is best known for, Emergency Services;
- An all-volunteer organization, founded on Dec. 1, 1941; an Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force;
- More than 64,000 members; 4,000 in the California Wing; Members perform reconnaissance missions, search and rescue, disaster relief, counter-drug operations at the request of law enforcement, homeland security and transport medical personnel, supplies and blood and live tissue.
- CAP performs 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) and was credited by the AFRCC with saving 91 lives in 2008.

*Want to learn more? Visit California Wing Civil Air Patrol at <http://www.cawg.cap.gov/> or the national Civil Air Patrol at <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com>*



At left, rifle bearer and Cadet Technical Sergeant Ashley Mayo of Morongo Valley; U.S. flag bearer and team commander Cadet Technical Sergeant Cody Premus of Yucaipa; California flag bearer and Cadet Senior Master Sergeant Dylan Mayo of Morongo Valley and rifle bearer and Cadet Staff Sergeant Patrick McMahon of Palm Springs. Each are members of CAP Palm Springs Composite Squadron 11. Photo by Amber Shattler

## Assemblymember Carter hosts Civil Air Patrol cadet squadron

Assemblymember Carter sends a special thank you to the Civil Air Patrol Inland Empire Group 3 Color Guard. Representing squadrons in San Bernardino and Riverside counties, their performance added pride and dignity to Assemblymember Carter's 2009

## Assemblymember Carter wants to hear from you

Call the State Capitol (916) 319-2062 or her District Office at (909) 820-5008 or write [assemblymember.carter@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:assemblymember.carter@assembly.ca.gov)

or visit her online at [www.assembly.ca.gov/carter](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/carter)  
Reach the editor of Carter Connection at [ellen.braunstein@asm.ca.gov](mailto:ellen.braunstein@asm.ca.gov)